

Preliminary Amendment

Page 4 of 4

Applicant: Salman Baig et al.

Serial No.: 10/018,936

Confirmation No.: 8674

Filed: October 19, 2001

For: *CYSTEINE PROTEASE AND INHIBITORS FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF NEUROCYSTICERCOSIS***Remarks**

The amendment made on page 8, line 23, corrects the journal's title. The author, year of publication, article title and partial journal title would enable one skilled in the art to determine the correct citation of the document.

The amendment made on page 20, line 3, corrects the journal's title. The author, year of publication, article title and partial journal title would enable one skilled in the art to determine the correct citation of the document.

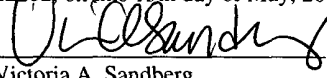
The amendment made on page 31, line 27 corrects the page number of the journal citation. The author, journal title, volume number and year were cited correctly and from this information the citation may be easily found.

Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives at the below-listed telephone number, if there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Attn: P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on this 15th day of May, 2002.


Victoria A. Sandberg

Respectfully submitted for
Salman Baig et al.

By

Muetting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.

P.O. Box 581415

Minneapolis, MN 55458-1415

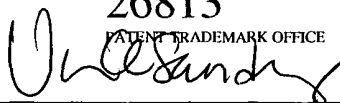
Telephone (612)305-1220

Facsimile (612)305-1228

Customer Number 26813**26813**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

By:



Victoria A. Sandberg

Reg. No. 41,287

Direct Dial (612) 305-1226

May 15, 2002

Date

Appendix A

Specification Amendments with Notations to Indicate Changes Made

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Amendments to the following paragraphs are indicated by underlining what has been added and bracketing what has been deleted. Additionally, all amendments have been shaded.

Page 8, lines 20-23

The proteolytic activity of the newly identified proteinase of the human parasite, *T. solium*, appears to be essentially undistinguishable from the demonstrated activity of the analogous protein of the mouse parasite, *T. crassiceps* (White et al., [J.] Mol. Biochem. Parasitol., 85:243-253 (1997)).

Page 20, lines 1-17

Hundreds of publications have now reported the efficacy of DNA vaccines in small and large animal models of infectious diseases, cancer and autoimmune diseases (J. Donnelly et al., Annu. Rev. Immunol. 15:617 (1997)). Vaccine dosages for humans can be readily extended from the murine models by one skilled in the art of genetic immunization, and a substantial literature on genetic immunization of humans is now available to the skilled practitioner. For example, Wang et al. (Science 282:476-480 (1998)) vaccinated humans with plasmid DNA encoding a malaria protein, and the same group has developed a plan for manufacturing and testing the efficacy of a multigene *Plasmodium falciparum* liver-stage DNA vaccine in humans (Hoffman et al., Immunol. Cell Biol. 75:376 (1997)). In general, the polynucleotide vaccine of the invention is administered in dosages that contain the smallest amount of polynucleotide necessary for effective immunization. It is typically administered to human

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subjects in dosages containing about 20 µg to about 2500 µg plasmid DNA; in some instances 500 µg or more of plasmid DNA may be indicated. Typically the vaccine is administered in two or more injections at time intervals, for example at four week intervals.

Page 31, line 22 to page 32, line 10

In the end, *Taenia* cysts may have become sensitized to a balance where a certain level of IgG in the host serum was actually beneficial metabolically, but too much could be destructive, immunologically. Perhaps there is a baseline physiological IgG level which is beneficial (IgG uptake in *T. crassiceps* cysts is shown to be saturable at physiological serum levels (Siebert et al., Exp. Parasitol. 48:164-174 (1979))). Thus, *Taenia* cysts may have a need for a certain level of IgGs for immune exploitation, but are harmed by concentration beyond this. Perhaps, this is why the cysteine protease, which is highly antigenic (Example III), is not located on the cyst wall surface, but is rather *within* the cyst wall. Consequently, the cysts may have evolved molecular mechanisms to control this balance. For example, a secretory *Taenia* glycoprotein (Villa et al., Parasitol. 112:561-570 (1996)) appears to modulate the shift from a host T helper 1 (Th1) cellular mediated immune response to a humoral T helper 2 response (Th2), favoring increased antibody production which may be used by the parasites for nutrition (this shift may also aid the parasites in avoiding a destructive Th1 cellular response, for which they have no defenses). Alternatively, diminished secretion of these molecules may slow down the shift from Th1 to Th2 allowing the parasites another means to control their immunological environment (and thus, physiological IgG levels).